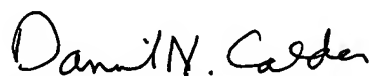


Remarks/Arguments:

By this Preliminary Amendment, applicants have cancelled claims 1-7 and added new claims 8-11. Claims 8-11 are based on the application as originally filed and are not the addition of new matter.

An early allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel N. Calder, Reg. No. 27,424
Attorney for Applicants

DNC/vj

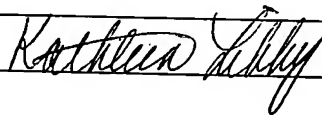
Dated: October 16, 2003

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

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